



[Redacted]

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VIA U.S. MAIL AND POSTED TO PORTAL SAFERPRODUCTS.GOV

May 6, 2015

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
4330 East West Highway, Room 504
Bethesda, MD 20814

Re: Report No: 20150414-0551E-2147433731
Consumer: [Redacted]

Dear Commission:

Please allow this letter to serve as the response of Select Comfort Corporation ("Select Comfort") to the above-referenced incident report. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to [Redacted] concerns.

Select Comfort is one on the nation's lead bed manufacturers and retailers. We design, manufacture, market and distribute premium quality, adjustable-firmness beds and other sleep-related accessory products. The air-chamber technology of our proprietary Sleep Number® bed allows adjustable firmness on each side of the mattress and provides a sleep surface that is clinically proven to provide better sleep quality and greater relief of back pain compared to traditional mattress products. Our product differs from traditional innerspring mattresses in that the sleep surface of our product is supported by air chambers that are enclosed within a removable cover. Traditional innerspring mattresses use metal coils that are fully enclosed within a cover that is typically not removable.

Common household mold or mildew is occasionally present within any mattress product or other upholstered household furnishings. This is brought about by either high levels of indoor humidity (for instance, in homes in humid climates, in basements or in proximity to sources of moisture such as showers) or through a natural phenomenon known as "transpiration". Transpiration refers to the release of moisture through the pores of the human body in the form of gas or vapor during sleep. This moisture naturally passes through any permeable mattress cover and enters the mattress.

Due to the removable cover on our products, the consumer is able to open our bed to check for the presence of mold or mildew. Components can be cleaned or replaced if mold or mildew has developed once the product is installed in the consumer's home. This is an advantage in the design of the products we manufacture and sell. With traditional innerspring mattress products, mold or mildew may be present within the product but the consumer is not able to open the product to check for its presence or to remove it.

Since mid-1996, Select Comfort has instituted various improvements to our products to minimize the formation of mild or mildew that may develop as a consequence of the various environmental factors that may be present in the consumer's home. Currently, key components of our products, including internal foam components and air chambers are all treated with anti-microbial agents designed to protect the integrity of the product from external environmental influences. These improvements have significantly reduced an already low rate of incidence with this naturally occurring environmental issue. We have ongoing efforts within our research and development department and with our suppliers to ensure that we continue to offer the most robust solution to this issue that impacts the entire mattress and upholstered furniture industry.

In the course of addressing customer concerns about this issue, we have conducted testing of samples of various components of our older (pre-1996) products that have been returned to us due to mold formation. This testing has revealed common household mold levels that were in each case lower than mold levels typically found in normal outdoor air and were generally lower than or comparable to mold levels found within buildings with good air filtration systems. These levels would not impact the average consumer. We have been advised by independent experts that

Select Comfort Corporation

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